

# GERMAN ADVANCE ON DUNKIRK CHECKED BY ALLIES

text of the night communique, issued at 10:55 P. M., was as follows:

On our left wing, from the North Sea to La Bassee, on the fronts extending from Nieuport to Dixmude, from Ypres to Menin and from Warneton to La Bassee a violent battle was engaged during the day. Latest news is to the effect that the allied forces are holding their own throughout the line.

There is nothing new on the centre or on the right wing.

Russia.—The German army directed against Warsaw was forced yesterday to retreat precipitately. The enemy has abandoned positions which he had organized for defence. The Russians are pursuing and are making many prisoners.

The afternoon report stated specifically that the Germans had been repulsed in several attacks upon the allied left wing and noted that elsewhere there was no development warranting comment. The report, which was given out at 2:40 P. M., was as follows:

Throughout yesterday the assaults of the enemy were particularly violent against Nieuport, Dixmude and La Bassee. All were repulsed with extreme energy by the allied armies.

Everywhere else the situation remains without notable change.

## GERMANS GAIN GROUND.

Troops Are Progressing Toward Dunkirk, Berlin Reports.

BERLIN, via The Hague, Oct. 21.—The War Office announced today that, while severe fighting is in progress along the line of the Yser River in Belgium, there has been no decisive result. It is stated that the Germans are gradually gaining ground in the direction of Dunkirk.

The German right wing is slowly advancing from Lille, although the allies are maintaining a particularly stubborn defence. The fighting is said to be general all along the right wing.

## ALLIES GAIN GROUND.

Are Now Coming Into Touch With Foe's Main Position.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, Oct. 22.—The Times correspondent at Boulogne, telegraphing under yesterday's date, says:

"It is clear that in the operations of the past week the allies have gained ground. They are now, however, coming into touch with the main German position at Lille."

## GERMANS FALL BACK.

Campaign Plan in Belgium Said to Be a Failure.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—In spite of the violence of the German attacks it appears to be true that the allies have made great progress in Belgium as well as in northern France. A correspondent of the Daily Mail in a despatch from Flushing says that the Germans have been driven northward to within six miles of Ostend and are now holding Middelkerke. Cannon have been mounted near Ostend and the Germans wounded have been removed from Bruges.

The *Stras* Bordeaux correspondent described the operations as follows:

"On Tuesday the Germans made another great effort to burst the narrowing circle of steel that is hemming them in. They tried vainly at no fewer than six points to discover a weak spot on the allied front, the main effort being made at La Bassee."

A *Times* correspondent in northern France says the whole German plan has been disarranged by the allied strength on the German right. He reports:

"The occupation at Ostend had little strategic advantage. Dunkirk is strongly fortified and an attempt to move on it would be dangerous to the Germans, while Calais is well able to look after itself. The fighting line daily had undergone changes which were totally undesirable."

In the opinion of English and French military critics the Germans are fighting to the limit of their energy and there are signs that the difficulties of the situation are too much for them. There are repeated indications that their soldiers are overdriven and are losing the energy characteristic of them in the first two months of fighting. The allies, according to all reports, are fighting with the greatest ardor and determination. They have steadily advanced toward Lille, but have been hindered greatly by the scientifically constructed German defences, barbed wire entanglements proving to be particularly troublesome.

A summary of the situation states that the allies have been able to straighten their old battle line in France while driving wedges in the German line in Belgium and in the extreme northern part of France. The line is now very irregular, the German line being bent, especially in the region of Roulers.

## GERMAN LOSSES HEAVY.

Many Killed in Desperate Fight to Reach Dunkirk.

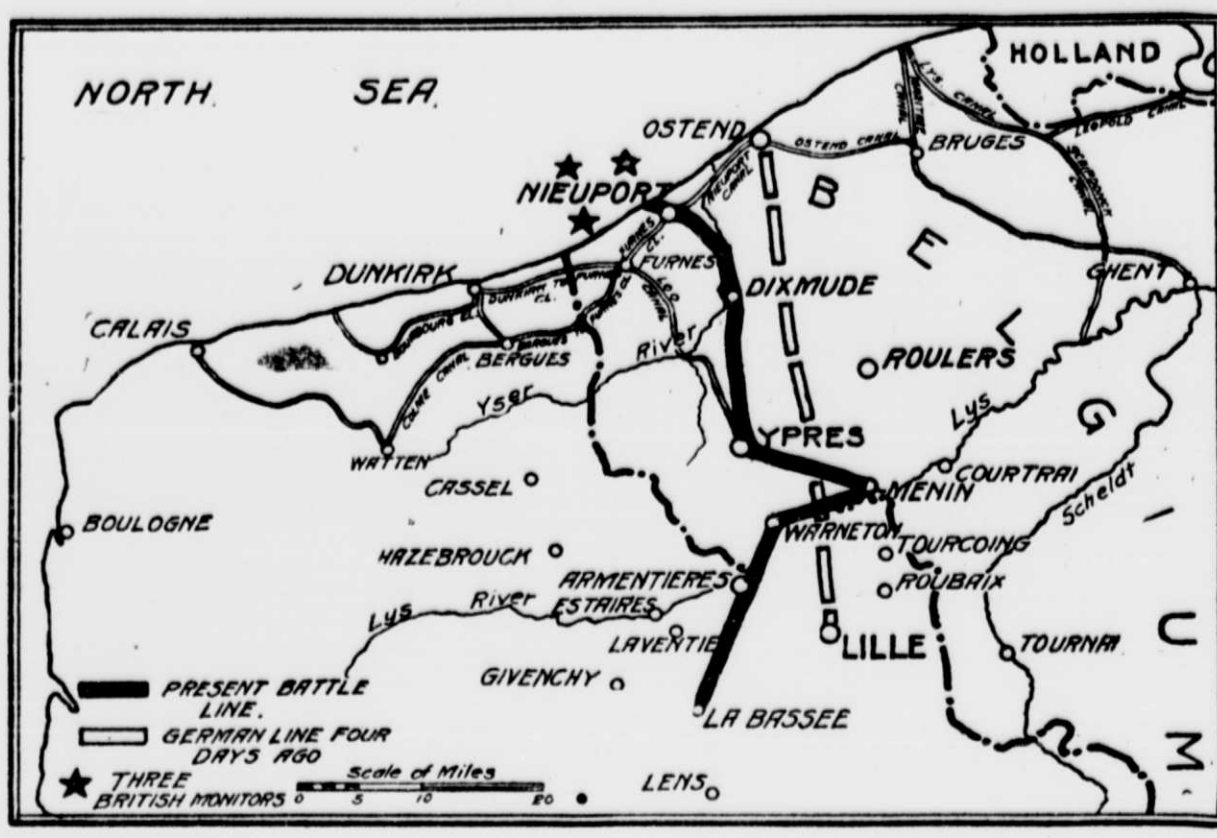
Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—Martin J. Donahoe, special correspondent in northern France and on the Belgian coast for the *Daily Chronicle*, telegraphs that the fighting on Monday and thereafter was exceptionally severe. The Germans made another desperate attempt to break through the allied line to reach Dunkirk and Calais. They flung themselves against Nieuport and Dixmude. The attacking column which forced its way west of Nieuport in the hope of reaching Furnes and the French frontier was beaten back with heavy losses, but despite severe punishment received the column returned to the attack three times.

At first, Mr. Donahoe reports, the Germans carried everything before them. The column attacking Dixmude succeeded in gaining possession of the town itself. But the triumph was short-lived. A force swept down upon the enemy and charged with the bayonet. The battle cry was "Remember Louvain and Termonde."

The fighting was hand to hand and extremely desperate. The Germans tried to stand up to the line of bayonets but their resistance crumbled and they speedily yielded the ground they had won. They began to retire and the bayonet accounted for a large number of them.

When sheer fatigue compelled the pursuing infantry to halt the artillery completed the work of demoralization. The Germans abandoned thousands of dead and wounded.



The accompanying map shows the line of the French left wing, which, according to the French official announcement, now runs from Nieuport, on the Belgian coast, to La Bassee. On this line a violent action is in progress and the allies are said to be holding their ground all along the front.

The line indicates that the allied forces are pushing a wedge into the German line in the region of Menin. The German front in Belgium, which extended last week in an almost direct line from Ostend to Lille, has been broken up into a series of zigzag lines by the pressure of the Anglo-French advance.

## MISS LEE IN LONDON; TELLS OF WAR EVILS

Daughter of Robert E. Lee Thinks Spy Mania in England Is Exaggerated.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—Miss Mary Lee, only surviving daughter of Gen. Robert E. Lee, arrived here today from Hamburg, coming via Rotterdam. She is at the Hyde Park Hotel and when interviewed had little to say about her experiences in Europe, but preferred to speak of the evils of war.

"Although I am a soldier's daughter and descended from a long line of soldiers, what I have seen has almost made me a pacifist," she said.

"I have often heard my father say that war is a terrible alternative and should be the last resort of a nation. I sometimes wonder if in this case war was the last alternative. I got my first full view of life in the dark days of the civil war, but it has been a terrible experience for me to see the brave, the handsome and strong of England and Germany march away to war only to be killed, or perhaps to be maimed."

"My father used to say that men killed in battle often die a speedy, glorious and painless death, but that the crippled and maimed who had to live, useless and sometimes in pain, suffered far more. Then I wonder at this war, particularly what cause can be great enough to cause all this suffering, and whether it can be worth it."

"I have high admiration for Lord Kitchener, whom I have met. It seems to me that the English press in some instances is hysterical and unreasoning. For instance, the spy mania, and the ceaseless calling the Germans Huns and Vandals. I have met many German military men and I cannot believe that they are what the English press would have us believe all Germans are."

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## GERMAN LINE NOW CALLED "A SERIES OF ZIGZAGS"

By JOHN FRIOLEAU.

Special correspondent of The Sun and the London Daily Mail.

FRANCE, behind the left wing, Oct. 21.—The situation is hourly getting better. The German line is no longer a line, but a feeble series of zigzags.

Their channel army zigzags from some vague spot near the Dutch frontier toward Bruges, then westward a little toward Roulers. It bends back again behind Courtrai, waves indolently between Roubaix and Tournai

and struggles wildly over the country near Orchies. At Douai and west of Lille its contour is indelible.

Only four days ago the German line, speaking only of the new German right wing, was drawn straight south from Ostend to Lille. But the line has been bent out of shape and into a series of weak curves and zigzags.

There is a rumor that Ostend has been taken, but the report lacks confirmation. I hear that the Germans are preparing to evacuate Bruges.

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"No English person of any description is allowed to come to Brussels. The treatment accorded the English is pitiful. Anybody in a café suspected of being English is asked for his passport. Should he prove to be English he is sent to Germany as a prisoner. Consequently the English remain in their houses and frequent only the streets where they are not molested."

"I became friendly with a high German officer, who took me in his automobile to Cologne, via Namur and Liege. The destruction I saw on every side made my blood run cold. The sight of starving, destitute people on the roads and in the ruined villages was horrible. I spent the night at Cologne and talked with people at the hotel. They believe that England will be overthrown."

The doctor describes a visit to the German lines at Antwerp and also to the city itself, which he found not much damaged. He says:

"I was greatly impressed by the German military equipment, but their medical service, in which one would think they would lead the world, is rather crude. The hospitals improvised in Brussels and other cities are not well equipped and seem short of various necessities."

"In the railway yards at Brussels, which the Germans are turning into a great military depot, I saw over 500 carloads of guns and over 1,000 carloads of all kinds of machines and supplies ready to be shipped to different points for distribution. I was interested to see for the first time a traction trench digger—a kind of motor plough which digs a trench four feet wide and four feet deep."

"Another novelty was fire ladders which can be run to the tops of high trees for observation purposes, by means of which the Germans mount their machine guns at points of vantage. Their portable ovens bake 5,000 loaves of bread an hour."

"On October 13 I saw half of a battalion come in after fighting around Antwerp. Out of 450 men, every one with the exception of about thirty was staggering like drunken men. The officers were striking them with their swords as they marched, shouting and singing."

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"Two weeks ago 450 Belgian postal clerks and postmen went on strike, declining to work longer with the Germans."

"The Germans are making a house to house canvass through Belgium for all young men remaining in the country. These are being taken to Germany to work on farms or are being drilled. The botanical gardens are used as a resting place for the soldiers on short leave and the regiments from the front who want rest."

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## "LONDON FIRST, THEN PARIS," SAY GERMANS

Correspondent Saw Officers Study Map of British Capital.

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## Warships Play Big Part in the "Battle of the Canals"

British Naval Guns Force German Line Near Belgian Coast Into Full Retreat by Bombarding Villages Occupied by the Enemy.

NEW MONITORS GIVE PROOF OF IMMENSE VALUE.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—The British squadron off the coast of Belgium, which now forms the extreme left wing of the allied line, has performed effective service in the last few days. The warships have played a great part in the severe fighting near Nieuport.

The Admiralty has issued the following statement:

"The monitors, Severn, under Commander Fullerton; Humber, under Commander Snagge, and Mersey, under Commander Wilson, have recently been engaged in the operations on the Belgian coast, firing on the right flank of the German army. Owing to their light draught they have been able to contribute materially to the success of the operations in this district and have already abundantly justified their acquisition on the outbreak of the war. In addition, detachments with machine guns have been landed from these vessels to assist in the defence of Nieuport, where they performed meritorious service."

The fleet of three new river class boats, which were recently bought from Brazil, armed with six inch guns, with scouts and torpedo boats, left Dover hurriedly on Saturday afternoon and crossed the Channel. Firing was heard at Dover on Sunday evening. The first intimation that the vessels had been in action was the return of the light cruiser Attentive on Monday morning with seven of her crew wounded by shrapnel bursting over the vessel while she was bombarding the German trenches outside Nieuport the previous day. Several vessels are still bombarding the German trenches.

A correspondent of the *Times* reports that on Monday the fleet was attacked by German submarines, but a patrol of destroyers came up in time to drive off the submarines. The engagement took place while the British cruisers were firing on coast batteries.

From Dover it is reported that the guns of the British ships brought down a Taube aeroplane last Sunday, and that on Monday a Zeppelin which attempted to reconnoitre the position of the cruisers was hit and dropped into the sea. This report, together with the news that a submarine attack was repulsed, is passed by the censor, but is not confirmed by the Government press bureau.

On Saturday night, according to correspondents in Belgium, the warships observed that the Germans were digging trenches along the coast, flares lighting up their operations. This enabled the ships to get the exact range, and at daylight they shelled the German positions. A correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* in Belgium says the warships effectively bombarded villages along

the coast which had been occupied by the Germans. Between the ships and the Belgians the Germans found themselves caught in a trap and lost heavily.

"The rattle of machine guns supplemented the noise of the naval guns," says the correspondent. "The Germans, caught between two fires, began to waver and slowly gave way before the pressure of the infantry. The strength of the attack was then increased, and soon the whole German line resting on the coast was in full retreat."

It is reported that British warships silenced six German batteries and Germans lost 1,600 artillerymen killed or wounded. The fighting in this region, a network of canals and small rivers, is taking the name of the battle of the Canals. It is conjectured that the British are using small torpedo boats and gunboats in these canals, supplementing with this force their larger cruisers off the coast. News of the success of the fleet comes at an interesting moment. Today is Trafalgar day, the anniversary of Nelson's great victory.

UNDER FIRE OF FLEET.

Germans Bombarding Nieuport Are Attacked from Sea.

By J. M. JEFFRIES.

Special correspondent of The Sun and the London Daily Mail.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

FLUSHING, Oct. 21 (Wednesday night).—The general situation on the Belgian seaboard and in the neighborhood of Bruges and Ghent is growing critical for the Germans. This morning they were still holding Westende and were bombarding Nieuport, but they were under the fire of warships. The reply of the German batteries was falling short of the warships when last observed.